



MIDTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Evening Worship

Second Sunday after Epiphany

01.19.2020

Welcome to Worship at Midtown! We are really glad to have you with us for worship today. Whether you have been a Christian for many years, or are trying to sort out what the Christian faith is all about, or are just here as a favor to your friend, we're happy to have you. We have a nursery provided for little ones. You are welcome to keep them in the service with you if you prefer.

Reflection

In 'Christendom' it is possible to simply exhort Christianized people to 'do what they know they should.' There is little or no real engagement, listening, or persuasion. It is more a matter of exhortation (and often, heavy reliance on guilt.) In a missional church, preaching and communication should always assume the presence of skeptical people, and should engage their stories, not simply talk about old times.' A missional church should enter into these stories and re-tell them through the gospel To enter into a culture means to show sympathy toward and deep acquaintance with the literature, music, theater, etc. of the existing culture's hopes, dreams, 'heroic' narratives, and fears. For example, the older (Christendom) culture's story was--to be a good person, a good father/mother, son/daughter, to live a decent, merciful, good life. Now the culture's story is to be free and self-created and authentic, and to make the world safe for everyone else to be the same. To 're-tell' our current culture's story with the gospel means to show how only in Christ can we have freedom without slavery and embrace of the 'other' without injustice.

-- Tim Keller

The Word

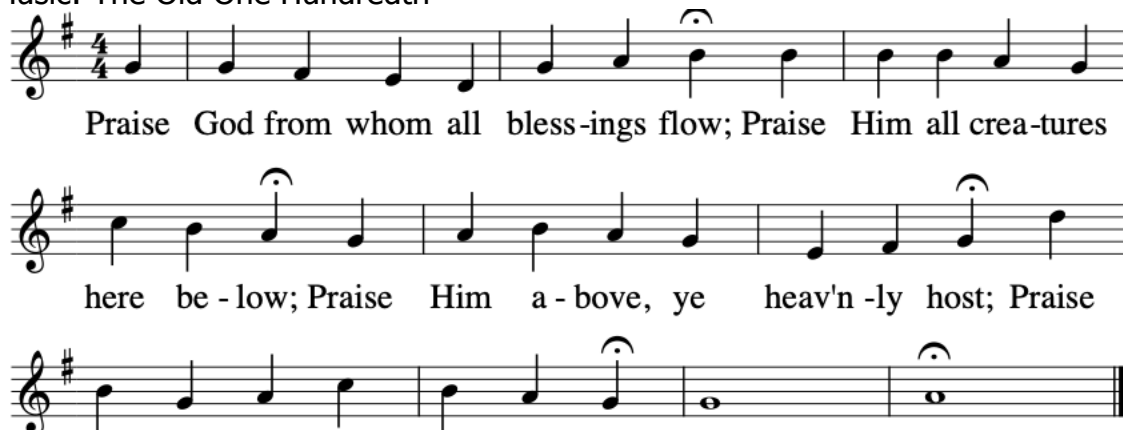
Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-3

Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Doxology

Music: The Old One Hundredth



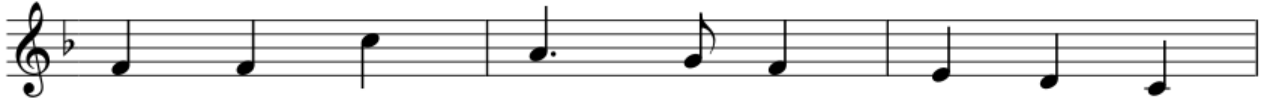
Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him all crea-tures
here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - - men.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Lyrics: Joachim Neander; Music: 17th Century German Tune



1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - migh - ty the king of cre - a - tion!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly reign - eth.
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend thee.
4. Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
Shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea so
Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy here
All that hath life and breath, come now with



help and sal - - va - - tion!
gent - ly sus - - tain eth!
dai - - ly at - - tend thee.
prai - - ses be - - fore him.



All you who hear, Now to his tem - ple draw
Hast thou not seen how all your long - ings hath
Pon - der a new what the Al - migh - ty can
Let the a men sound from his peo - ple a -



near. Praise him in glad a - dor - a - tion!
been, gran - ted in what he or - dain - eth?
do, if with his love he be - friend thee.
gain, Glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Confession of Sin

John 3:19-21

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.

Confession of Sin

Most holy and merciful Father; we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature—prone to evil and slothful in good—and all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your way, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased you. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, help us, we beseech you, to live in your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[You are invited to confess your sins silently at this time.]

Trisagion

Music: Fernando Ortega

Ho - - - ly_ God. Ho - ly and migh - ty.

Ho - - - - ly, Im - mor - tal one. Have

mer - cy, have mer - - cy on us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

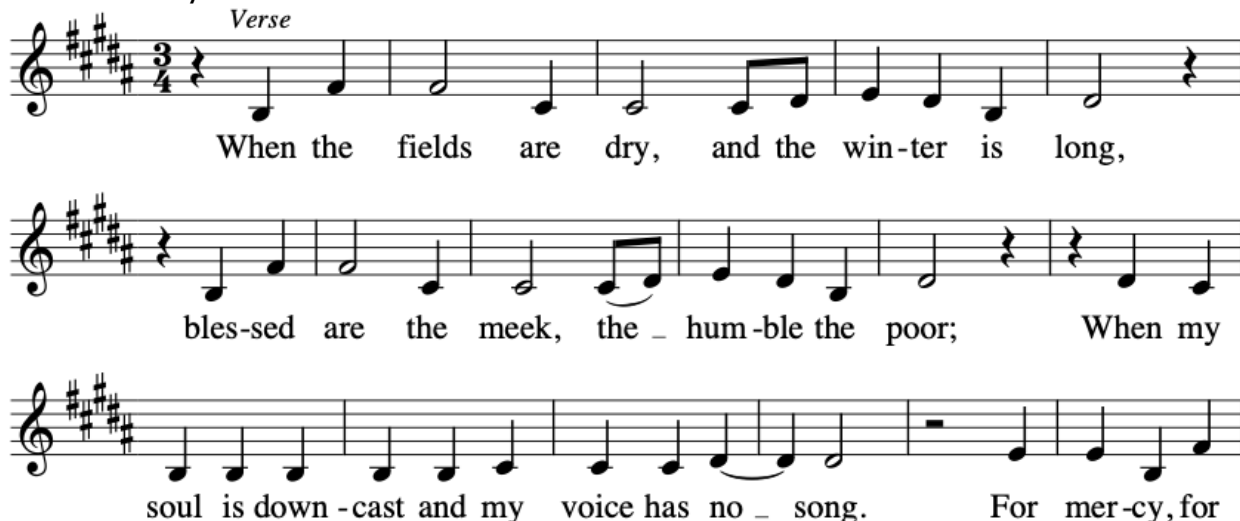
Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

In Feast or Fallow


Music & Lyrics: Sandra McCracken

Verse



When the fields are dry, and the win-ter is long,
bles-sed are the meek, the _ hum-ble the poor; When my
soul is down - cast and my voice has no _ song. For mer-cy, for

Chorus



com-fort, I wait on the Lord. In the har - vest feast or the

fal - low ground, my cer - tain hope is in Je - sus found; my
 lot, my cup, my por - tion sure, what - e - ver comes we
 shall - en - dure, what - e - ver comes - we shall - en - dure.

On a cross of wood, His blood was outpoured
 He rose from the ground, like a bird to the sky;
 Bringing peace to our violence, and crushing death's door,
 Our Maker incarnate, our God who provides. [Chorus]

When the earth beneath me crumbles and quakes,
 Not a sparrow falls, nor a hair from my head
 Without His hand to guide me, my shield and my strength;
 In joy or in sorrow, in life or in death. [Chorus]

The Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Let us pray to the Lord, for the mission of the church,

that in faithful witness

it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth,

we pray to You, O Lord.

(Please pray silently for the church throughout the world.). Amen.

For those who do not yet believe and those struggling with their faith:

**that they may receive the light of the gospel,
we pray to You, O Lord.**

(Please pray silently for those yet to believe.). Amen.

For the peace of the world,

**that a spirit of respect and forbearance
may grow among nations and peoples,
according to Your will,
we pray to You, O Lord.**

(Please pray silently for the world.). Amen.

For the poor, the persecuted, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners,
and all who are in danger;

**that they may be relieved and protected,
we pray to You, O Lord.**

(Please pray silently for those who suffer.). Amen.

And hear us as we pray as our Savior taught us,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 2:12-17

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Mark 8:34-38

Reader: The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

People: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lyrics: Reginald Heber; Music: John Dykes



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Lord God Al - migh - ty!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly! Mer - ci-ful and migh - ty!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Tri - ni - ty.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who were and art and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

New Testament Reading

Acts 17:22-34

²² So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸ for

"In him we live and move and have our being";
as even some of your own poets have said,
"For we are indeed his offspring."

²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

³² Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." ³³ So Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴ But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Charles Garland

The Table

Confession of Faith The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Invitation and Prayer

[Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer.]

The Sursum Corda (Lift Up Your Hearts)

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

The Words of Institution

The Mystery of Faith

Minister: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again!**

Minister: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

[As you are ready please come forward to receive the bread and the cup. We provide individual cups of grape juice and gluten-free wafers in the tray at the front. We partake in the Supper by intinction, that is, we dip the bread into the cup. Children who have not yet professed their faith in Christ nor been admitted to the Table are encouraged to come forward for a prayer of blessing.]

What Wondrous Love is This

Music & Lyrics: American Folk Hymn



What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my
soul! What won-dous love is this, O my soul. — What
won-dous love is this that caused the Lord — of bliss to
bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my soul, to
bear the dread - ful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down;
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!

Take Us, O Lord

Lyrics & Music: Isaac Wardell



O how he takes _ the cross, O how he lifts _ it up



to take the weight from us. O how he pays _ the cost,



O how he drinks the cup, to make a place _ for us.

CHORUS



Take us, _ O Lord, and all we have known. Shape us, O



Lord, and form us in - to your own. Take eve - ry heart and



know eve-ry sin. Break us, O Lord, that we may be whole a - gain.

Hear how he breaks the curse, hear how he cries aloud,
Hear how his voice resounds. O how he forms the words,
O how he cries them out, "See it is finished now!"

How deep the wounds he wears, how dark the scars he shows,
How well the name he knows; written upon his palms,
O what a name to find. That name before him: Mine!

Benediction

Notes

Offering: We have placed an offering box at the back of the sanctuary that you can use as you enter or leave. You can also give online at our website www.mpctucson.org.

Email List: Please sign up for our email list on the table in the back. We send out the bulletin and announcements every week before worship and would love to include you.

Women's Bible Study Wednesday 1/29, at 7:00, at the Garland's home (1324 N Norton Ave). We'll be using Tim Keller's book on Romans 1-7.

February Book Studies: Women: Friday, February 7th, at 7 PM at Julie Garland's house to discuss Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe. Men: Tuesday, February 11, at Matt McReynolds' house to discuss The Coddling of the American Mind by Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt.

Super Bowl Sunday Time Change: We will meet at 3:00 instead of 4:00 on Sunday, February 2, so you can go to Super Bowl parties.

Pastor: Charles Garland
Music Director: Sarah Lewis
RUF Staff: Dan & Brittany Smith

Midtown Presbyterian Church
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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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